

**Amendments to the Specification:**

On Page 1, please add a new Section entitled "Parent Case Text" – and new paragraph [0002] as follows:

Parent Case Text

[0002] This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/455,032, filed March 14, 2003.

In paragraph [0026], please replace the last sentence as follows:

In contrast to previous experiences with other media, cultures grown to saturation in these media ~~retain~~ remain viable for periods of weeks to months of storage in the refrigerator, retaining their titer (typically greater than  $10^{10}$ /ml) and ability to grow subcultures with little or no lag.

In paragraph [0030], please replace the final two lines as follows:

growth to higher density before the level of induction caused by 1% lactose became high enough to kill the cells. Almost all of these surviving cells had also lost plasmid.

In paragraph [0034], please replace the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) sentence as follows:

The term auto-induction is used to refer to the growth pattern of inducible expression strains in ~~lactose-inducer~~-containing media, where growth is essentially normal in the early stages, with little or no induction, and expression of the target protein is turned on automatically at a later stage of growth, with no intervention.

Please replace the last sentence of paragraph [0039] as follows:

Thus, one would not expect auto-induction to work in T7 expression strains that carry mutations in the *lac* permease ~~(and therefore because such cells cannot take up lactose), nor in cells that carry~~ mutations in  $\beta$ -galactosidase that prevent the transgalactosidation reaction which generates the true repressor.

Please replace the first sentence of paragraph [0043] as follows:

In contrast to conventional inductions by addition of either IPTG or lactose, where growth of each culture must be monitored and inducer (IPTG or lactose) added at the proper time, auto-inducing cultures are simply inoculated and grown to saturation.

In Table I, please replace the top column heading line of the table as follows:

Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> MgSO<sub>4</sub> FeCl<sub>3</sub> metl ZY 18aa Glyc Gluc Lact Succ